

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected as being anticipated by Sakamoto et al. '473. Claim 1 is being amended to have the meaning which was implicit in the phrase "the metallic whisker is intermittently buried in the damper casing" in claim 1 as originally filed. Claim 1 is being amended as follows:

1. A speaker damper, comprising a damper casing and a metallic whisker, wherein the damper casing is a woven pad formed as a circular wafer with corrugated sections which are corrugated so as to have peak segments and valley segments; and the metallic whisker is intermittently penetrates through the damper casing between a first surface and a second surface of said damper casing, and is held by a fastening string at at least one of said peak and valley segments.

Although it was implicit in the original claim language, claim 1 now recites more clearly that the metallic whisker "intermittently penetrates through the damper casing between a first surface and a second surface of said damper casing." This feature, at least, fundamentally distinguishes the invention from the prior art of record. In Sakamoto '473 as well as in Sakamoto '697, which was cited without being applied to the claims, a conductive member is adhered or attached to one surface of a damper casing. It does not penetrate or pass through the damper casing from one surface to another surface. Likewise, with respect to the Mango et al. reference, the conductive members 66, 68 are contained entirely within the woven material 70. They do not pass or penetrate from one surface to another surface of the woven material.

Claim 2 has been correspondingly amended and new claims 3-7 have been added to cover additional features of the disclosed embodiment of the invention.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, allowance of claims 1-7 is requested.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 6, 2003:

James A. Finder
Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative
Signature
May 6, 2003
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Finder
Registration No.: 30,173
OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP
1180 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-8403
Telephone: (212) 382-0700

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800
MAY 12 2003

RECEIVED